



# NEWS RELEASE

## PRESS OFFICE

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### Small Business Financing Available to Local Entrepreneurs SBA Loan Representative to Visit San Luis Obispo on February 10-11

San Luis Obispo County – Record-breaking loan totals were approved during the first quarter of this fiscal year by the Fresno District Office of the U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA) in participation with local lenders to small businesses in San Luis Obispo County. For the period of October 2004 – December 31, 2004, 51 SBA guaranteed loans for \$11 million were approved to assist small businesses in San Luis Obispo County as compared to 40 guaranteed loans for \$7.9 million during the same time period in the previous year.

Ronald E. Truly, Deputy District Director of the Fresno SBA Office said, "We expect the number of small businesses assisted by SBA loans through local participating lenders will reach an all time high this year."

The mission of the SBA is to help entrepreneurs grow and develop their own small businesses. SBA offers a wide array of programs and services to assist entrepreneurs from small business financing, government contracting, surety bond programs, to small business counseling and training programs. SBA services are offered to the public free of charge.

SBA Representative Truly will be visiting the SLO area on February 10–11, 2005 and setting up appointments with local small business entrepreneurs at the Mission Business Information Center (BIC) to discuss SBA programs and services. **Small business owners are encouraged to call the BIC at (805) 595-1357 to arrange for an appointment to meet with Ronald Truly.**

Free small business counseling on how to start your own business is available at the Mission Business Information Center located at 3566 S. Higuera, Suite 100 in San Luis Obispo. The BIC is sponsored by the U. S. Small Business Administration, Cuesta College Small Business Development Center and Mission Community Services Corporation.

More information about SBA may be found at [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov); about the Cuesta College Small Business Development Center at [www.smallbusinessinfo.org](http://www.smallbusinessinfo.org) and about MCSC and the Mission/SBA Business Information Center (BIC) at [www.mcscorp.org](http://www.mcscorp.org).

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